

- d. selecting features from the information retrieved at steps a and c to identify concepts associated with the entity within each identified context; and
 - e. structuring the identified concepts within each context.
- 2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of structuring the identified concepts is done by classifying the concepts into at least one of a set comprising of concepts that are exclusive to the entity, a set comprising of concepts that are exclusive to the identified context, a set comprising of concepts that are common to both entity and the identified context but more representative of the entity, and a set comprising of concepts that are common to both the entity and the identified context but more representative of the identified context.
- 3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2 further comprising the step of ranking the concepts within each set.
- 4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2 further comprising the step of presenting top ranked concepts within each set.
- 5. (Original) A method of profiling an entity, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a. identifying contexts associated with the entity;
 - b. retrieving information corresponding to each identified context from at least one information source;
 - c. selecting features from the retrieved information to identify concepts associated

with the entity within each identified context; and

- d. structuring the identified concepts within each context.

6. The method as recited in claim 5 wherein the contexts are identified by finding prominent nodes, that contain the entity, in an ontology or a taxonomy.

7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 5 wherein the contexts are identified by using at least one of synonyms, hypernyms, hyponyms, and meronyms of the entity found in a thesaurus.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 5 wherein the contexts are identified by finding a set of the words or phrases that occur frequently with the entity and that mutually do not appear together in documents in the information source.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for profiling an entity, the system comprising:

- a. — means a first unit operable for retrieving information from at least one information source using the entity as search criteria;
- b. — means a second unit operable for clustering the retrieved information in order to identify contexts related to the entity;
- c. — means a third unit operable for retrieving information corresponding to each identified context from at least one information source;
- d. — means a fourth unit operable for selecting features from the retrieved information

in order to identify concepts associated with the entity within each identified context; and

e. ~~means~~ a fifth unit operable for structuring the identified concepts within each context.

10. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim 9 wherein the ~~means for structuring the identified concepts~~ fifth unit comprises:

a. ~~means~~ a classifier operable for classifying the identified concepts into sets with respect to each entity-context pair; and

b. ~~means~~ a component operable for ranking the concepts within each set.

11. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim 10 further comprising ~~means~~ a sub-unit operable for presenting top ranked concepts within each set.

12. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer program product~~ program storage device readable by computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform a method

for profiling an entity, the ~~computer program product~~ method comprising:

a. ~~program instruction means for~~ retrieving information from at least one information source using the entity as search criteria;

b. ~~program instruction means for~~ clustering the retrieved information in order to identify contexts related to the entity;

c. ~~program instruction means for~~ retrieving information corresponding to each identified context from at least one information source;

d. ~~program instruction means for~~ selecting features from the retrieved information in order to identify concepts associated with the entity within each identified context; and

e. ~~program instruction means for~~ structuring the identified concepts within each context.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ program storage device as recited in claim 12 wherein the ~~program instruction means for~~ step of structuring the identified concepts comprises:

a. ~~program instruction means for~~ classifying the identified concepts into sets with respect to each entity-context pair; and

b. ~~program instruction means for~~ ranking the concepts within each set.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ program storage device as recited in claim 13 further comprising program instruction means for presenting top ranked concepts within each set.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of profiling an entity, the method comprising the steps of:

a. retrieving information from at least one information source using the entity as search criteria;

b. clustering the retrieved information to identify contexts;

- e. retrieving information corresponding to the entity and each identified context from at least one information source;
- d. selecting features from the retrieved information to identify concepts associated with the entity within each identified context;
- e. classifying the identified concepts into sets with respect to each identified entity context pair;
- f. ranking the concepts within each set; and
- g. presenting top ranked concepts within each set.

16. (Original) The method as recited in claim 15 wherein the concepts are classified into at least one of a set comprising of concepts that are exclusive to the entity, a set comprising of concepts that are exclusive to the identified context, a set comprising of concepts that are common to both entity and the identified context but more representative of the entity, and a set comprising of concepts that are common to both the entity and the identified context but more representative of the identified context.